

**MARYLAND GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES (GOCI)
MARYLAND COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS (MCIA)**

MINUTES OF JUNE MEETING: June 1, 2009

**Banneker-Douglas Museum
84 Franklin Street
Annapolis, Maryland
7:00 - 9:00 P.M.**

Present: Chairwoman Auriel Fenwick, Vice Chair Thomas Windsor, II, Wanda Lee,
Cornelius Allen Red Deer, Guy Wells

Absent: Virginia Busby, Kathryn E. Robbins Fitzhugh, David Cullen Holland

Staff Present: Susan Driscoll

- I. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME: COMMISSIONER/CHAIR AURIEL FENWICK**-Meeting commenced at 7:09 p.m.
- II. READING OF MAY 4, 2009 PARTIAL MINUTES: COMMISSIONER CORNELIUS RED DEER** Remarks by Janet Dudley-Eshbach - President for Salisbury University
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion to approve minutes by Commissioner Guy Wells. Seconded by Commissioner Cornelius Red Deer
- IV. UNFINISHED OLD BUSINESS: REPATRIATION** Mr. Bob Gajdys spoke on behalf of Commissioner Virginia Busby. The last meeting was held in January, but because of Commissioner Busby's health the meetings were cancelled although she asked the State to carry on. He noted that the policy states that all ten members be present. All of the public meetings were cancelled. Chair Fenwick received an update from Commissioner Busby stating that the next meeting is scheduled for June 25 somewhere in Annapolis. She said she had a question and concern of a committee that requires all ten members to be present to conduct business. Mr. Gajdys had the same concern and said he has officially put that in writing to be an agenda item to not any longer adhere to that policy. If there is a quorum then they should conduct business. He also noted that the two cancelled public meetings need to be scheduled. The group was productive with full day Saturday session. Do not want to do a two hour evening session. Chair Fenwick will ask Commissioner Busby to hold the meetings on Saturday. Chair Fenwick again expressed her concern about the mandate that all ten members be present. She said there is no way to effectively conduct a committee with that type of mandate

SWEAT LODGE COMMISSIONER GUY WELLS: Informed the Commission that his last communication with the Chaplain everything is going fine. They have upgraded the system. They are preparing for the next round.

EDUCATION: COMMISSIONER WANDA LEE/COMMISSIONER CORNELIUS RED DEER informed the Commission that the University of Maryland College Park was going to eliminate their Native American studies. The students met and called the MCIA for support. The students held a rally and the University President told them they can have the continuous educational Native American courses for two years. It wasn't that the students weren't attending it was that they didn't have enough faculty to teach the class. We are going to send a letter thanking them for continuing the courses.

Mr. Gajdys asked if they do not have enough staff can current leaders volunteer time to help assist faculty. Chair Fenwick felt they would probably be considered a guest instead of facilitating

V. NEW BUSINESS.

Coordinator spoke about her duties with working on all the Commissions websites. She asked the community to send any events so they can be posted on the web-site. She also spoke about American Indian Heritage Day which is the Day after Thanksgiving. Last year there was a dinner at the Miller Senate Building. She asked the Commissioners to decide where they would like the event, any caterers and entertainment.

Joni Jones the new Executive Director of the Banneker+Douglas Musuem bring greetings from the African American Commission. She noted that in the mid 70's they were one commission. Thanks to the Governor Office we have returned. One of her priorities is to look for ways they can work together, being a possible site for Heritage Day. Maybe in the future they can do an exhibit together. Perhaps also explore ways that African Americans and American Indians identity have intercepted historically in Maryland. She will be seeking out the Executive Director and attending meetings for feedback and other opportunities.

Mr. Wendell Sutton. Deputy Secretary, Governor's Office of Minority Affairs spoke to the Commission about an outreach business event to be held on the Eastern Shore to introduce Native American businesses to State agencies as well as private industry. This is an opportunity to learn how to work with each other, State and private industry. It is the GOMA to work with all the minority communities. It's going to be in Cambridge or Salisbury around August 18.

Commissioner Red Deer has a project where 40 students from the BAIC and 40 students from New Mexico will be sattending the UMCP, Salisbury University and American University on choosing colleges.

Mr. Sutton said that they are available if someone is needed to speak to them.

Colonel George Johnson, DNR Police [Hugh Brohan Supervisor] said that they are trying to reach out to all communities. He would love to fill positions with this community. If he is not here Danielle will be available to answer questions.

Vice Chair Thomas Windsor asked about salary. Colonel Johnson said enrty level with no experience is \$42,000 and starting salary is \$43,000. He spoke about the cadet program which was 18 to 21 but because of budget it makes it difficult to implement.

It was asked if DNR would be willing to have a booth at special event. Yes, depending on dates.

Chair Fenwick wanted to know for American Heritage Day if a list of locations could be sent out? She thinks everyone was very pleased with last year. It was noted that any suggestions be sent to Ms. Driscoll by the end of June.

Commissioner Red Deer spoke about having a marketing program to remove Black Friday.

It was noted that it wasn't publicized much last year.

Commissioner Lee suggested that it be a fund raising event where people could buy tickets. Chair Fenwick asked Commissioner Lee to put her suggestion in an e-mail.

Mr. Gajdys mentioned possibly getting Joanne Shenadoah.

Ms. Driscoll spoke about possibly having an award ceremony.

Chair Fenwick asked Ms. Driscoll to bullet the suggestions and they can have a tele-conference on Wednesday, June 24 at 7:30 p.m. There was discussion on a date to send e-mails to Ms. Driscoll about the dinner

June 9 Send e-mail to Commission Chair on Dinner
June 17 Feedback is due
June 24 7:30 Conference call to discuss dinner.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING: COMMISSIONER RED DEER

SECONDED MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING: COMMISSIONER LEE

Meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.